



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW MEXICO

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY & DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

3:30 p.m., April 5, 2018, 100 Caster Hall

“Genes, Physiology, and Fertility of Tibetan Women at High Altitudes”



Cynthia M Beall, Ph.D.

Distinguished University Professor
& S. Idell Pyle Professor of Anthropology,
Anthropology Department,
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Dr. Beall is a physical anthropologist whose research focuses on human adaptation to high-altitude hypoxia, particularly the different patterns of adaptation exhibited by Andean, Tibetan and East African highlanders. Her current research deals with the genetics of adaptive traits and evidence for natural selection and with the role of nitric oxide in oxygen delivery at high altitude. Professor Beall is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Abstract:

High-altitude populations offer an informative natural laboratory to test hypotheses about ongoing human evolution and adaptation. This talk presents evidence that Andean and Tibetan highlanders differ in biological characteristics and gene pools. Narrowing the focus to Tibetans, it describes the relationships among genotypes, phenotypes, and reproductive success in a sample of post-reproductive Tibetan women residing at high altitudes in Nepal.

